(c) Districts have been identified as backward for coverage under the scheme.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

Six Laning of NHS

3906. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has converted National Highways from four to six lanes;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years especially in Andhra Pradesh, State-wise; and

(c) the role of public-private partnership therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Government has given approval on 5.10.2006 for undertaking six-laning of 6500 km of National Highways through Public Private Partnership of BOT (Toll) basis following Design, Build, Finance and Operate (DBFO) pattern under NHDP Phase-V. This includes the entire length of NH-5 in Andhra Pradesh. The target date of completion of NHDP Phase-V is 2012.

(c) In Public-Private Partnership, the concessionaire (private sector) is required to meet the upfront cost of construction and the expenditure on annual maintenance. The viability of such projects is based on return on investment out of the future toll collection and Annuities payable by employer in case of BOT (Toll) and BOT (Annuity) Projects respectively.

Commissionerate for enforcing road safety norms

3907. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that around 85000 road accident deaths occur every year in the country;

(b) if so, whether there is any plan with Government to set up a commissionerate for enforcing road safety norms especially on highways as currently there is no organization to look into the safety aspects related to highway traffic;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Number of fatalities in road accidents on all the roads during the years 2003, 2004 and 2005 (the latest available data) are as under:—

Year	No. of fatalities
2003	85998
2004	92618
2005	94968

(b) to (d) The safety to road users including on National Highways is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, on the recommendation of Committee on Infrastructure, a Committee was constituted by this Ministry under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Sundar, former Secretary of the then Ministry of Surface Transport to deliberate and make recommendations for setting up an effective and dedicated agency for Road Safety and Traffic Management. The Committee had submitted its report on 20th February, 2007. The main recommendations of the Committee, *inter alia,* include creation of National Road Safety and Traffic Management Board through an Act of Parliament. The Board would have advisory as well as regulatory functions. Under regulatory functions, the Board would set standards for the Motor Vehicles and set standards for designing of roads. In its advisory role, the Board would assist Central Government in the matters relating to road safety and traffic management and would promote road safety research, road user behaviour strategies, lay guidelines for establishing medical care and rehabilitation, etc. Enabling provisions have been made for creation of similar bodies at State level.